

# ASPIRA, Inc. OF NEW JERSEY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE • 390 BROAD STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07104 • 201-484-7554



BUILDING ON  
TWO DECADES  
OF SERVICE

MARGARET ROSARIO-RIVERA  
CHAIRPERSON

HILDA ROSARIO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CARLOS J. ALMA

DENNIS ALVARADO

GENE CALDERON

ELVIN J. CRESPO, ESQ.

AGUSTIN CRUZ

SAMUEL A. DELGADO

LOUISE T. LESTER, ESQ.

MARTIN MARTINEZ, JR., ESQ.

ELSA NUNEZ-WORMACK, PH.D.

WALTER A. OLIVERAS, ESQ.

RICHARD RAMIREZ

EVELYN SEDA LEQUERICA, M.D.

DELIA SOSA

NOEMI VELAZQUEZ

## ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey Board Meeting April 2, 1992

### Attendance

Carlos Alma  
Gene Calderon  
Agustin Cruz  
Elsa Nunez-Wormack  
Richard Ramirez  
Margaret Rosario-Rivera  
Evelyn Seda Lequerica  
Noemi Velazquez

### Absent

Hector Alamo  
Dennis Alvarado  
Betty Ayala-McGovern  
Elvin Crespo  
Sam Delgado  
Yolanda Morales  
Walter Oliveras  
Delia Sosa

Staff: Hilda Rosario, Executive Director  
Linda M. Santiago, Development Officer

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Meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

### 1. Waiver of Notice

All Board members indicated that they were duly notified of the meeting.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

Margaret Rosario-Rivera indicated that Abraham Espada and Louise Lester are no longer on the board so they can not be considered absent. She also corrected the attendance for the month of January, Walter A. Oliveras did not attend that meeting as the minutes indicate.

Margaret Rosario-Rivera entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

Richard Ramirez moved to approve the minutes.  
Gene Calderon seconded.

### 3. Chairperson's Report

A call was placed to ASPIRA, Inc. of New Jersey by the Association for Children who are having a conference on youth and their needs. ASPIRA was asked to participate. Margaret Rosario-Rivera thinks it will be incumbent for ASPIRA to participate; ASPIRA is a model that works. We can present our model, network, and learn. The date of the

conference is Saturday May 2, 1992 in Newark. Information is forthcoming.

ASPIRA received an invitation to participate in the Puerto Rican Parade in Jersey City on August 23, 1992.

Margaret Rosario-Rivera wants to meet with the Executive Committee to talk through the agenda for the retreat. The Executive Committee meeting has been scheduled for April 13, 1992 at 5:00 p.m.

Margaret Rosario-Rivera asked the Finance Committee to present at May's Board meeting the guidelines by which we select future Board members (preferably the guidelines should be mailed in advance of the meeting).

#### 4. Executive Director's Report

Hilda Rosario attended a congressional seminar in Washington D.C. on March 8-12. She met Congressman Andrews, and ASPIRA's Grant specialist for the Talent Search Program, Ms. Gabby Watts.

Hilda Rosario informed the Board that she was dismissed from Jury Duty after 21/2 days of service.

On March 19, 1992, Hilda Rosario was sworn-in to the Hispanic Taskforce at the Major's office. Luis Quintana will chair the committee.

Hilda Rosario visited St. Peter's Hospital as a result of her involvement with Leadership New Jersey. The purpose of this visit was to study the cost of health care in the state of New Jersey.

Hilda Rosario informed the Board that a Federal Grant will be submitted April 3, 1992 to the U. S. Department of Education. This proposal if funded will secure the economic stability of the Trenton Center.

#### 5. Finance Committee's Report

Elvin Crespo is not present, Margaret Rosario-Rivera tabled the committee report.

#### 6. Development Committee's Report

Evelyn Seda Lequerica reported that Jersey City State College has a few dates available for ASPIRA's Jazz Concert in 1993. The auditorium is available free of charge. Evelyn Seda Lequerica will be looking into a cross-section of Jazz bands. The dates available are in April and May. Ray Barreto will be approached for the July dance. Our concern is that there is a

possibility that the artist may cancel at the last minute. ASPIRA can only afford to pay \$2,500 compared to his \$4,500 rate. Mr. Barreto has been known to cancel if his rate is offered elsewhere.

On April 18, 1992 the Development Committee has a meeting at 11:00 a.m.

#### 7. Programs Committee Report

Richard Ramirez discussed the status of the Self-Assessment. He explained that an outline was created and that the Self-Assessment Instrument was in draft form. Basically, it is a questionnaire which addresses issues identified by the Programs Committee several years ago.

Margaret Rosario-Rivera asked Richard Ramirez what is the timeframe for the Self-Assessment Report. Richard Ramirez explained that by the next committee meeting a final draft of the questionnaire will be produced and mailed to the members of the Board. It may be possible that this report can be part of the retreat. Hilda Rosario spoke to Janice Petrovich, Executive Director of the National Office, to find out at what stage the National office is with their Self-Assessment. Hilda Rosario was informed by Dr. Petrovich that no major progress has been made on this initiative.

#### 8. Task Force Committee's Report

Carlos Alma reported that on March 19, 1992 Hilda Rosario, Margaret Rosario-Rivera, and he met with Luis Quintana, Mayor Sharpe James, and the Mayor's assistant to discuss the status of the Block Grant for ASPIRA's Capital Campaign. Carlos Alma stated that the meeting was more a political statement. Carlos Alma explained that the meeting also accomplished two things, first that ASPIRA as an agency wants to be recognized and represented in city initiatives that involve our youth, and secondly, that now the Mayor is aware that ASPIRA wants funds for both Capital Campaign as well as programs.

Margaret Rosario-Rivera stated that during the meeting they reminded the Mayor who ASPIRA was, and that as a Hispanic agency we have not been getting our share. Only one Hispanic agency received a grant last year, and that was La Casa. Margaret Rosario-Rivera said that ASPIRA needs to be ever diligent in our actions with the mayor. Carlos Alma indicated that ASPIRA needs to be at City functions. Margaret Rosario-Rivera said that we need to be part of the city of Newark's mailing list. Carlos Alma wants ASPIRA to become political (not partisan), and get

involved with Voter Registration Drive.

9. Capital Campaign Status' Report

Elsa Nunez-Wormack informed the Board that Al Lowenstein was suppose to contact pharmaceuticals to raise funds for the purchase of the building. Elsa Nunez-Wormack spoke to Mr. Lowenstein and he will be meeting with the Chief Officers of Johnson & Johnson and Squibb Corporation. Pharmaceutical companies are doing well in these hard economic times compared to other industry.

10. Student Advisory Board's Report(SAB)

Agustin Cruz reported that the SAB held their last meeting at Rutgers University. The SAB discussed creating a logo. The SAB has also changed the ASPIRA club constitution. The SAB also ratified the new changes in the constitution. The SAB was concerned that they were not going to be part of the Youth Conference, which will take place in May. The participants of the ASPIRA Public Policy Leadership Program have been the only students directly involved in the conference. Now that SAB exists, they want to make sure that they are part of the Youth Conference.

11. Old Business

Elsa Nunez-Wormack had a meeting with Eleanor Horne Executive Secretary at ETS concerning ASPIRA's image in the City of Trenton and ASPIRA's visibility. A decision was made to sponsor a conference in order to enhance our image as well as to address one of our three year plan goals. The topic of the conference is Hispanic Males. Elsa Nunez-Wormack met with Jose Valentin of Trenton State College. Trenton State College will provide the space.

The date set and confirmed for the conference is Friday October 23, 1992. The purpose of the conference is to work on solutions and not dwell on the problems. ASPIRA needs to raise funds for the speakers. We want to keep the cost down, a fee of \$20.00 will be charged to defray the cost of lunch.

Elsa Nunez-Wormack explained that two focus groups have been organized in order to develop the content and direction of the conference. The first will be held on April 10 in Newark at the Executive office, and the second will be held in Trenton on May 22. Approximately 60 people were invited from all facets of the community. The focus groups will be the brainstorming component of the conference.

Elsa Nunez-Wormack indicated that she did not invite Board members to the focus groups, but they are all

welcomed. In June, Elsa Nunez-Wormack will send a report to all Board members concerning the results of the focus groups and at that time the Board can discuss the conference and its content.

Noel Velazquez asked Elsa Nunez-Wormack where ASPIRA would go from there, after the conference. Elsa Nunez-Wormack stated that a report can be written about the conference. A written report can include programs that are effective and work with males. There will be a variety of workshops. The conference will be sponsored solely by ASPIRA.

#### New Business

The Pins researched by Carlos Alma were too expensive so ASPIRA will not order any at this time.

Hilda Rosario will be on a panel of educators on Channel 13 in the program Caucus N.J.

Elsa Nunez-Wormack entertained a motion to close the meeting.

Agustin Cruz made motion to adjourn meeting.

Evelyn Seda Lequerica seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 1992 at 6:00 p.m.